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**IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**OFFICIAL**

**Inventors:** Buswell et al. **Examiner:** Culbert, R.  
**Serial No:** 10/061,492 **Group Art Unit:** 1763  
**Filing Date:** 1/31/02 **Confirmation No:** 2065  
**Title:** Methods and Systems for Forming Slots in a Semiconductor  
Substrate Containing Microelectronics

**To:** Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
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**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated 3/02/04, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set for 6/02/04. Please amend the above-identified application in accordance the directions set forth below.

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected on the list of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14 of this paper.